

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1 through 19 (Canceled)

20. (Re-presented - formerly dependent Claim #20) In an apparatus for treating cytological or histological specimens of a type having a plurality of conventional processing stations and a transport device for delivering said specimens into and out of said plurality of processing stations, the improvement comprising:
at least one heatable reagent station being provided as a processing station, said reagent station comprising a container having dimensions similar to those of a container of a conventional processing station and a thermally insulating holder for receiving said container, wherein said holder includes a recess in which said container is inserted and an electrical heating plate integrated into said holder.
21. (Re-presented - formerly dependent Claim #21) In an apparatus for treating cytological or histological specimens of a type having a plurality of conventional processing stations and a transport device for delivering said specimens into and out of said plurality of processing stations, the improvement comprising:
at least one heatable reagent station being provided as a processing station, said reagent station comprising a container having dimensions similar to those of a container of a conventional processing station and a thermally insulating holder for receiving said container, wherein said holder is configured for receiving two or more said containers.
22. (Original) The improvement as defined in Claim 21, wherein said holder comprises two or more heating devices operating independently of one another.
23. (Canceled)
24. (Canceled)
25. (Re-presented - formerly dependent Claim #25) In an apparatus for treating cytological or histological specimens of a type having a plurality of conventional processing stations and a transport device for delivering said specimens into and out of said plurality of processing stations, the improvement comprising:
at least one heatable reagent station being provided as a processing station, said reagent station comprising a container having dimensions similar to those of a container of a conventional processing station, a thermally insulating holder for receiving said container, and a pan in which said holder is positioned, wherein said holder comprises an electrical heating device and said pan comprises electrical connections for connection of said heating device to a power supply.

26. (Re-presented - formerly dependent Claim #26) In an apparatus for treating cytological or histological specimens of a type having a plurality of conventional processing stations and a transport device for delivering said specimens into and out of said plurality of processing stations, the improvement comprising:
- at least one heatable reagent station being provided as a processing station, said reagent station comprising a container having dimensions similar to those of a container of a conventional processing station, a thermally insulating holder for receiving said container, and a pan in which said holder is positioned, wherein said pan has an outflow fitting connectable to an outflow line.
27. (Canceled)
28. (Canceled)
29. (Re-presented - formerly dependent Claim #29) A heatable reagent station for use as a processing station for treating cytological or histological specimens, said reagent station comprising:
- a container having a thermally conductive base;
 - an electrical heating plate operatively connected to said base; and
 - a holder having a recess for receiving said container, said electrical heating plate being provided as part of said holder to contact said base when said container is inserted in said recess;
- wherein said base includes a planar surface in contact with said heating plate.